

The  
**Ontario  
 Model  
 Soldier  
 Society**  
 Founded 1962  
 www.omss.ca



# Monthly Newsletter for December 2019



## Monthly Meeting Dates for 2019

12 January 2020 - 9 February 2020 – 8 March 2020  
 5 April 2020 - 3 May 2020 – 13 September 2020  
 18 October 2020– 22 November 2020 - 13 December 2020

## Annual Show

Saturday June 13, 2020

## Monthly Newsletter for December 2019

### 2019 Executive

Lorne Farr  
 President

Keith Ritchie  
 1st vice president

Scott Millburn  
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius  
 Secretary/Treasurer

John Hambly  
 Past President

Vacant  
 Program Chairman

Brendan Hogan  
 Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt  
 Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt  
 Newsletter Editor/ Media  
 Officer

Dave Norman  
 Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay  
 Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan  
 Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist  
 Ian Pearson

Next meeting...

**Sunday, 8 December, 2019**

Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto  
 Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

*Note: for this meeting we will be in the pub room*

## Letter from the President



We conducted our OMSS annual auction at the November meeting. Approximately 125 lots were auctioned with most of the items selling. This year many toy cannons were entered in the auction and sold. Thanks to Frank and Janet MacKay for acting as our auctioneers and Gary and his team of helpers dealing with the auction payments.

The December meeting means another active collecting year has gone by for the OMSS members. I believe the OMSS highlight of the year was the annual show on June 15.

Tom Elliott has organized our now traditional Swiss Chalet dinner for the December 8 meeting. The members will gather in the Legion's Club Room for conversation and a nice lunch. Tom is requesting members to bring a dessert item to the meeting. If you are attending the meeting and have not pre-ordered a dinner from Tom, you should send him an email or call him as soon as possible.

This meeting marks the end of my term as President. I would like to thank the OMSS Executive for all their support during 2019. The Executive members perform many tasks that allows the OMSS to function and hold the monthly meetings. In 2020, the OMSS will be in the capable hands of our next President, Keith Ritchie.

I hope all the members have an enjoyable holiday season and Happy New Year. Hopefully all the members will receive some toy soldier gifts this year.

*OMSS President – Lorne Farr*

## ANNUAL OMSS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND AWARDS



Our annual Christmas Luncheon and Awards will be held on Sunday the 8th of December. The meal will be a 1/4 chicken, choice of white or dark meat with fries and à garden salad with dressing from Swiss Chalet. The cost is \$17.00 per meal.

**If you haven't reserved a meal with Tom Elliot please contact him as soon as possible at 647-467-5610 or by email at [telliott45@hotmail.com](mailto:telliott45@hotmail.com) to order meals.**

Tom would also appreciate it if you could bring a dessert for the event as well.

There will be an area as per usual for Vendors, however please remember that vendors are allowed only one large table at this meeting.

### Garry Robson

Member Garry Robson is currently in hospital in Belleville recovering from open heart surgery. Garry had a heart attack in October after a cardiac stress test. We wish him a speedy recovery. We'll have a "Get Well" card for Garry at the meeting for the members to sign.



### MISSING DEL PRADO FIGURE

During the annual auction held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November John Hambly had a Del Prado figure of an Italian infantryman go missing by accident. If anyone found it in their purchases would they please return it to either John Hambly or me at the December Christmas Luncheon.

**The newsletter is edited by Scott Dummitt.**

**News items and notices can be submitted to [gijoe@kos.net](mailto:gijoe@kos.net) or 705-939-1028**

**Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings.**

**Articles submitted must be original as due to copyright law we cannot reproduce any published article without permission of the publication in question**

**AS OF JUNE 2020 I WILL BE STEPPING DOWN FROM DOING THE NEWSLETTER. WE STILL HAVE HAD NO ONE OFFER TO TAKE OVER WHICH MAY RESULT IN NO FUTURE MONTHLY PUBLICATION!**

## What's New in the Hobby? – December 2019

by Brendan Hogan



First off, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of my fellow society members. This month I'm going to preview figures that have previously been released by W. Britain's but have now been bundled together into Christmas bundles for W. Britain's Collectors' Club members.

Britain's has released nine bundles: two from the "Jack Tars & Leathernecks" series, one each from the "Clash of Empires," American Civil War, "Regiments," and the "Archive Collection," three from the First World War. My personal favourites are the Union Army fife and drum band and the

German kitchen wagon. Prices for the bundles range from USD 150 to USD 325. If interested, ensure that your club membership is up to date and be sure to get your orders in soon. The sale on these Christmas bundles ends on 31 December 2019. These figures can be ordered direct from the W. Britain's website (<https://www.wbritain.com/new-releases/collectors-club-christmas-bundle-sale>).

John Jenkins Designs has introduced more of its Butler's Rangers and 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot in the "Drums along the Mohawk Range". The new sets feature the loyalist unit wearing a green buckskin jacket. Also recently released by JJD is Colonel Robert Gould Shaw of the Massachusetts 54<sup>th</sup>.



## **The OMSS Annual Auction Report**

**By Gary Lenius**

The Society held its annual auction as usual at the November meeting. We had a lively afternoon with our tag team of auctioneers Frank and Janet MacKay. 37 members registered for the auction as buyers and/or sellers. 118 lots were put up for sale, although 28 were passed by as there was no interest at the reserved bid prices. The 90 lots that did sell went for a total of \$2493, so a few folks went home with cash in their pockets! Items from the club's draw table brought in \$128 for the Society.



As well as our intrepid auctioneers, thanks are due to our cohort of helpers who included Jim Qualtrough and his wife Cindy, John Hambly, Mike Chrus, Andy Traverse and Barb Milburn. Many hands make light work. And yours truly kept track of the bookkeeping and cash flow from my trusty laptop.

Lastly it was great to see Scott Milburn out for the meeting. He was able to talk his caregivers into making the OMSS his first outing of his recovery.

### **On Facebook?**

Make sure and check out our Facebook group maintained by Dave Norman. There are lots of interesting postings. [www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/)

### **OMSS 2020 Calendar**

Frank MacKay has informed us that the 2020 society will be available at the January 2020 meeting. Unfortunately one of the advertisers did not get their ad in until late and this threw the publication schedule off by a month.

## **CLUB ANNUAL DUES DRIVE**

It's that time of year again when we need you to pay up your annual dues for the 20120 season. Membership is \$40.00 per person, but look at all that you receive. 10 newsletters, a Calendar, and at least one club "JOURNAL". Members also receive a special rate on the William Britain Limited club exclusive of WWI Canadian General "Sir Arthur Currie" and are able to participate at the annual auction held in Toronto each year. Special rates (see Gary Lenius) are also available for family rates and youths.

**BANDSMEN INFO – From Ian Pearson**

## Bandsman of the 100<sup>th</sup> Regiment Gordon Highlanders

Taken from Dispatch – The Journal of the Scottish Military Historical Society  
No. 164 April 2004  
Written by John Melrose

The bonnet has a red, white and green diced band with black lower binding and ribbon behind with black feathers. The hackle plume is red although later it was white with a red tip for the band and a black circular cockade with regimental button in the centre. The coat is white with yellow collar, lapels, cuffs; shirt turn backs and shoulder straps, which have a white edging. The shoulder wings are yellow with white lace, edged red and a white fringe. The waistcoat is white and the belted plaid of Gordon tartan. He wears red and white diced hose, red garters and a white hair sporran with red tassels in black sockets and a red top. His black shoes have brass buckles. The white sword shoulder belt has a brass plate and the brass hilted broadsword is in a black brass mounted scabbard. **The Print depicts a bandsman in 1794**

## Sgt. Major 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Regiment

Taken from Dispatch – The Journal of the Scottish Military Historical Society  
No. 72 Autumn 1974  
written by JT Thomson

**Shako** – Albert pattern, black beaver bound with black leather. Black leather peak in front and a smaller on behind. Gilt star plate decorated with battle honours etc. Gilt chin chain and side ornaments, white ball turf with red base, gilt holder.

**Coatee** – Scarlet, silver buttons and lace on collar front and cuff flap. Silver lace strap, silver crescent with short silver buttons.

**Collar and cuffs** – Dark blue

**Trousers** – Lavender shade, worn only during summer. In winter black trousers with a tin red stripe.

**Sash** – Crimson, knot and fringe on left.

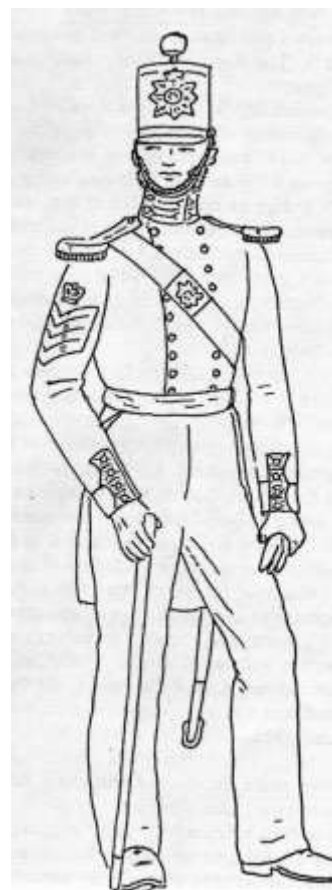
**Shoulder sword belt** – White, gilt plate with silver device. Black leather scabbard gilt mounts.

**Cane** – Brown wood, gilt top and tip.

**Footwear** – Black

**Gloves** - White

**The print depicts a bandsman  
circa 1850's**



Ian Pearson has been a member of the OMSS for over 35 years and is the society archivist. He has been the head judge at 'ON PARADE' for several years and is a retired RCAF Sergeant. He has written two books, one on *the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada* the second, which is now used at the Canadian Forces School of Music, is entitled *The Heritage of Canadian Military Music*.



**Limited Edition Lieutenant  
General Sir Arthur Currie**

### **General Sir Arthur Currie figures now available**

The OMSS commissioned William Britain Limited to produce a special edition matte finished figure for us of Lt. General Sir Arthur Currie, commander of the Canadian Corps in 1918. Only 250 of these figures were produced. The figure is 1/30<sup>th</sup> scale and comes with numbered certificate of authenticity. For a limited time these figures are being offered to our members at an exclusive members' price of \$36 each. Every member in good standing may purchase up to two figures.

These figures will be available at the remaining meetings of this year from Gary Lenius.

If you can't make it to a meeting contact us by email at [omss@bell.net](mailto:omss@bell.net) or by mail (OMSS 43 Saugeen Cres. Toronto M1K 3M8) to arrange shipping. Within Canada shipping by Canada Post is \$15 for one or two figures.